

## Do's and Don'ts To Petting Your Bird

**Follow these tips the next time you pet a bird**

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Courtesy Terri & Gale Pauken, Michigan

First introduce your bird to strangers before you allow them to pet it.

DO assess your bird's body language before trying to pet it.

DON'T try to pet your bird if it pulls back, runs away or tries to bite you.

DO speak to your bird first before just reaching out to pet it.

DON'T let strangers pet your bird without first introducing them to the bird and making sure the bird is comfortable with them.

DO set aside some quiet time for petting sessions.

DON'T pet your bird down its back or tail.

DO stick to petting your birds head.

DON'T take it personally if your bird doesn't want to be petted.

DO try and earn your bird's trust through patience and understanding.